

## Read and answer the questions below

## How much can you learn in a month?

My name is Anna Baker. I work for a magazine, which was doing an article about British language learners. As an experiment, they asked me to learn a completely new language for one month. Then I had to go to the country and do some 'tests' to see if I could 'survive' in different situations. I decided to learn Polish because my great-grandmother was Polish and I have some relatives there. I can already speak French and Spanish quite well but Polish isn't a Latin-based language so I knew it would be completely different.

I took a one-month intensive course at a language school in Birmingham. I thought I was good at languages before I started learning Polish, but now I'm not so sure. I found it incredibly difficult. The grammar was really complicated and the words were not like any other language I know so it was very hard to remember **them**. For example, I thought 'football' was more or less an international word, but in Polish it's *pilka nozna*. And the pronunciation is unbelievable! Every word is full of z's where you don't expect them, like *jezdzić* which means 'you go'.

My course finished yesterday and I'm going to Krakow for the weekend to take my tests. A local guide called Kasia is coming with me and is going to give me a mark out of 10. These are the tests and the rules:

## Tests

You have to...

1. get a taxi.
2. order a drink in a bar.
3. ask for directions (and follow them).
4. phone and ask to speak to someone.
5. ask somebody the time.

## Rules

- you mustn't use a dictionary or phrasebook.
- you mustn't speak English at any time.
- you mustn't use your hands or mime.

## 1) What was Anna's experiment about?

to write an article      to learn a new language in a month      to teach British language learners

## 2) Anna already knew these languages, except for...

English      French      Spanish      Polish

## 3) Where did she take the course?

in Krakow      in Barcelona      in Birmingham      in Paris

## 4) The word "them" on line 8 refers to:

the grammar rules      the words      the z sounds      the languages

## 5) Where is she going to take the "tests"?

in Krakow      in Barcelona      in Birmingham      in Paris

## 6) This is NOT one of Anna's tests...

order some food      order a drink      make a phone call      ask for the time

## Answer the following questions with ONE word.

7) What was Anna's grandmother's nationality? \_\_\_\_\_

8) Is Polish a Latin based language? \_\_\_\_\_

9) What does *pilka nozna* mean? \_\_\_\_\_

10) What is the name of Anna's guide? \_\_\_\_\_